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## STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 349 OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING – SERVICE MEMBERS VETERANS and MILITARY SPOUSES – REVISIONS to RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS

Chairman Davis, Vice Chairwoman and Dumais distinguished members of the Economic Matters Committee. The American Legion Department of Maryland representing over 48,000 active duty, veterans and their families strongly support House Bill 349 and fervently believe this measure is a positive asset to the job seeker, the employer and Maryland's economy.

For the person seeking employment, be it an active duty member, a veteran or a spouse SB 349 will eliminate the cost of preparing for a license he or she has already earned from another jurisdiction or state and the examination expense as well.

Employers can benefit from finding a potential employee skilled and experienced to begin immediately with only minimal training. Because of the individual's military bearing, the employment can produce an employee who brings effectiveness and motivation to the worksite.

Placing the person on a paying job adds another tax payer to the state's employment ranks.

The next dental technician or the manicurist sitting before you may be a result of SB 349 which The American Legion serving in the State's 23 counties and Baltimore City respectfully request a favorable report from you, the members of the Economic Matters Committee.

Yours, respectfully

Patrick Guibao

Patrick J. Guibao Chairman THE AMERICAN LEGION Department of Maryland Legislative Commission